

REMARKS:**I. INTRODUCTION**

Claims 1, 2 and 4 have been amended. Claim 9 has been cancelled. No new matter has been added. Thus, claims 1-8 are pending in the present application. Applicants would like to thank the examiner for indicating the allowability of claims 7-8. In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, it is respectfully submitted that all of the presently pending claims are allowable.

II. THE ABSTRACT OBJECTION SHOULD BE WITHDRAWN

The abstract of the disclosure is objected to for the use of “means” in lines 2, 3, 4 and 5 (three times). (See 04/01/08 Office Action p. 2). Applicants have reviewed the abstract and find that the abstract does not disclose “means” within any line or lines 2, 3, 4 and 5. Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that the objection to the abstract be withdrawn.

II. THE 35 U.S.C. § 112 REJECTIONS SHOULD BE WITHDRAWN

Claims 1-9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. (See 04/01/08 Office Action p. 2). Based upon the cancellation of claim 9 and the above amendments to claims 1, 2, and 4 the Applicants respectfully submit that this rejection should be withdrawn.

III. THE 35 U.S.C. § 102/103 REJECTIONS SHOULD BE WITHDRAWN

Claims 1-6 and 9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated U.S. Patent No. 1,010,704 to Story (hereinafter “Story”). (See 04/01/08 Office Action, p. 4).

Claim 9 has been cancelled.

Story describes “a safety razor in which a substantially flat blade is clamped between a blade rest formed as a runner to bear and move upon the face, and a guard plate having guard fingers which cooperate with the cutting edge or edges of the blade ... a handle being provided which is adjustable relative to the blade and its holder and is capable of being locked in various positions.” (See Story, p. 1, col. 1, ll. 8-17). The guard plate is formed to bear on the inner side of the blade. (See Story, p.1, col. 2, ll. 83-84). The clamp is removable from the shank 13 to release the blade and guard plate. (See Story, p. 2, col. 1, ll. 5-7). Story teaches that the handle may be adjusted “at any desired angle relatively to the cutting edge or edges of the blade.” (See Story, p. 2, col. 1, ll. 61-64).

Claim 1 recites “the pivot axis being adjustable to different locations on the blade assembly.” The Examiner asserts that Story discloses this limitation “e.g., by moving threaded member 13 with respect to 20 through varying degrees of tightness such as by rotating 13 with respect to 20 180 degrees in either direction.” (See 04/01/08 Office Action, p. 4). Applicants respectfully disagree.

Story simply describes a method for attaching a blade to the handle through the use of a screw-threaded shank 13 and a clamp 20. “13 represents a screw-threaded shank which is rigidly attached to the rest 12 and projects over the central portion of its inner side.” (See Story, p. 1, col. 1, ll. 51-54). “20 represents a clamp which bears on the outer side of the guard plate and has a central screw-threaded socket 21 engages with the shank 13, so that when the clamp is rotated on the shank it acts as a nut and presses the guard plate against the blade and the blade against the rest.” (See Story, p. 1, col. 2, ll. 100-106). Story specifically states “the clamp is removable from the shank 13 *to release the blade and guard plate*, and when turned inwardly on the shank *to confine the blade and guard plate*.” (See Story, p. 2, col. 1, ll. 5-9). Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that Story clearly does not teach or suggest, “the pivot axis being *adjustable to different locations* on the blade assembly,” as recited in claim 1. Because claims 2-8 depend from and therefore include all of the limitations of claim 1, it is respectfully submitted that these claims are also allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 1.

CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that all of the now pending claims are in condition for allowance. All issues raised by the Examiner having been addressed, an early and favorable action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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